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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Rod L. Proctor

Application No. 09/757,938

Filed: January 1, 2001

For: **FACILITY AND METHOD FOR
CELLULAR DATA
COMMUNICATION BETWEEN
MERCHANTS AND CREDIT
PROCESSING AGENCIES**

Attorney Docket No. AIR-3

Examiner: Pedro R. Kanof

Date: January 28, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2681

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FEB 06 2003
GROUP 3600

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FEB 03 2003

Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Please preliminarily amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-19. Please add new claims 20-35 as follows:

A1
20. (New) A method of verifying a financial transaction comprising:

receiving via a voice channel of a digital wireless telecommunications network a set of audio tones representing a merchant financial verification request, a first tone in the set of audio tones representing a first binary portion of the financial verification request, and a second tone in the set of audio tones representing a second portion of the financial verification request;

converting the received set of audio tones into a financial verification request; and